



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

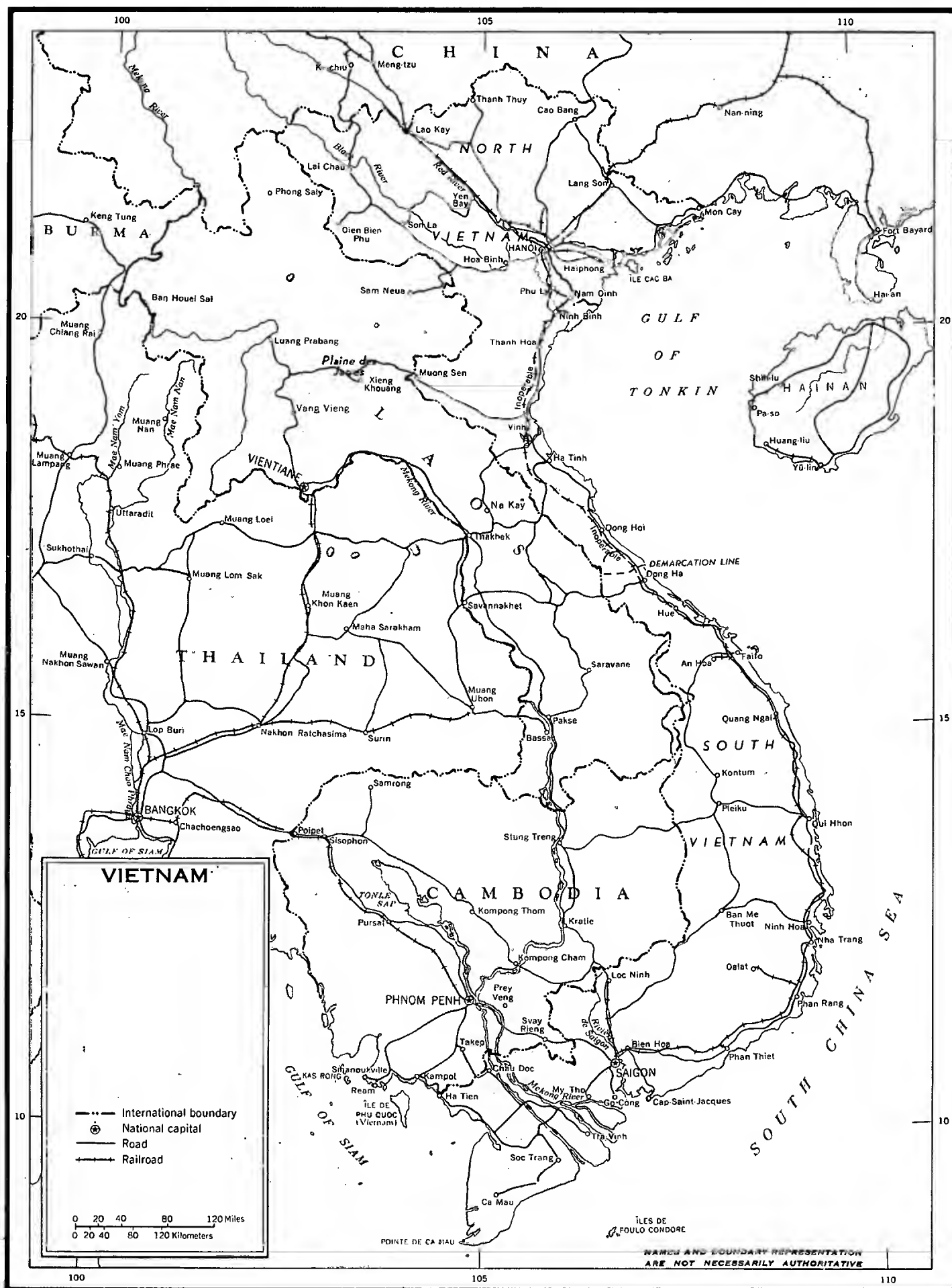


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12 APRIL 1965

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DAILY BRIEF
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1. Vietnam

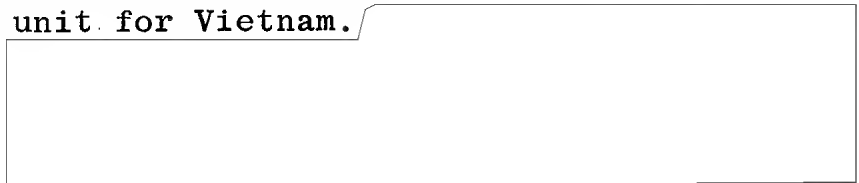


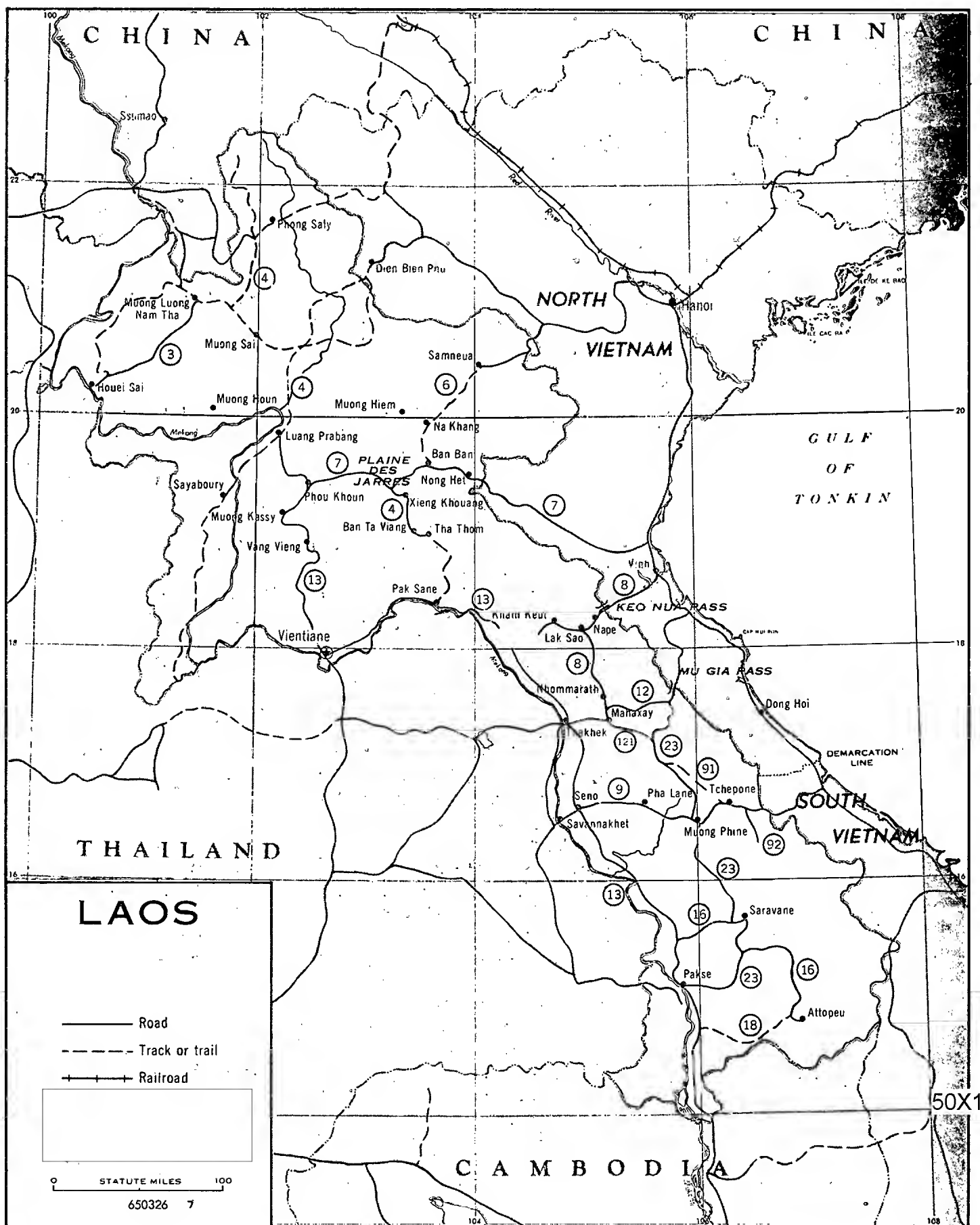
2. South Vietnam

Premier Quat is talking again of his intent to try to keep the generals in line, and away from each others throats, through the device of a reorganization of command lines at the top. He hopes eventually to abolish the Armed Forces Council as a rival authority. Depending on whom he hopes to put where, he could run into more trouble.

3. Cuba

There has been talk--but no hard evidence--from Havana of the formation of a volunteer Cuban or Latin American unit for Vietnam. 50X1





4. Cyprus

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5. Laos

Two nights last week, several aircraft "from the east"--probably North Vietnam--were observed circling over Communist positions near Na Khang and dropping supplies. (See map.)

It is too early to determine whether this was a one-shot operation to support Communist units trying to gain control of disputed portions of Route 6 or whether it means that the Communists, hurting from air strikes and facing the rainy season, are undertaking a more sustained aerial supply effort.

6. USSR

A Soviet lunar probe launched Saturday morning failed to reach its parking orbit,

The pattern of the last seven Soviet attempts has suggested a sophisticated mission for their lunar probe--possibly a soft landing of an instrument package or a probe in orbit along the moon's shadow line. Unless the Soviets revise their goals, next November would appear to be their next opportunity.

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NOTE

The Brief for 10 April reported a conversation in Ankara between Secretary Rusk and the Turkish Foreign Minister who said Turkey could not promise to consult NATO before any military action over Cyprus. The conversation actually took place in Tehran during the CENTO sessions.

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